

## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

## Mental Health Month

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, all Americans experience times of difficulty and stress in their lives, and many are now experiencing significant stress due to current economic conditions; and

WHEREAS, prevention is an effective way to reduce the burden of mental health conditions; and

WHEREAS, there is a strong body of research that supports specific tools that all Americans can use to better handle challenges, and protect their health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, mental health conditions are real and prevalent in our nation; and

WHEREAS, with effective treatment, those individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, the Mental Health Association of Rhode Island, Mental Health America, the National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare and their national partners, observe Mental Health Month each May to raise awareness and understanding of mental health issues; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee,** Governor of the State of Rhode Island do hereby proclaim May, 2012 as Mental Health Month in Rhode Island and encourage all its citizens to join me recognizing the importance of this month.



Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 10th day of April, 2012

Lincoln D. Chafee Governor

A. Ralph Mollis Secretary of State